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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 18 | Humidity 59% Clear with periodic clouds Sensex 61,980 | Nifty 18,409 | Gold 53,132 | Silver 62,358 | Dollar 81.32 | Euro 84.68 | GBP 96.72

How can just 15 personnel at BBMP's forest dept man all 243 wards? Tree census or wildlife rescue, surely they are overwhelmed

FINDING FORESTER

Posts of 8 forest officers, 20 deputies, 28 forest guards lying vacant

Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The forest department of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is battling a severe staff crunch. According to senior officials, the department is functioning with just 15 employees responsible for all 243 wards. This is less than 25% of the total sanctioned posts within the department.

"It is a challenge the department has been facing for some time now. The department has eight sanctioned posts for range forest officers, over 20 posts for deputy range forest officers and 28 posts for forest guards. Even these numbers are not good enough to manage an ever-growing city like Bengaluru; we are currently working with only 15 staffers managing all the wards," said a senior official.

Officials at the department told BM that this acute shortage is not only impacting routine work but is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 >>

FILE PHOTO

A slender loris rescued at Coles Park

"Though so many positions are lying vacant, salaries have been earmarked in the annual budget... the city is growing, but govt depts are short-staffed..."

— Srinivas Alavilli, Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship & Democracy

Flower without power

700-odd flower growers left in lurch post HC directive to shut down florists at Wilson Garden

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The BBMP had issued notices for the closure of wholesale flower traders at Wilson Garden after a directive of the High Court.

Soon after, the flower growers complained they have no alternative market for selling their export-quality cut flowers.

For the past two decades, flower growers have been relying on the unofficial Wilson Garden market; they said now flowers worth lakhs of rupees are being wasted.

Estimated 700 flower growers alongside secondary and tertiary dependents have been left in the lurch with the recent directive from the High Court regarding the shutting down of florists operating out of residential areas in Wilson Garden.

"25 years ago, we sold flowers at SJP Road; the flower business in Bengaluru was limited back then. Over time, business grew manifold. Another option was to sell on the footpath in KR Market from 9:00 pm to 6:00 am. Later, a few shops cropped up in Wilson Garden and soon it became an unofficial market for domestic and export purposes. For the past 25 years, we have

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7 >>

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Fashion walk

Fashionable 1 at 1MG Lido Mall, curated by Bengaluru's well-known celebrity designer Ramesh Dembla, will take place on Saturday. Dembla's display will highlight his distinct style of fashion, which is modern, sophisticated, but not traditional, and yet keeps a pulse in the fashion industry. Fab India, Rosso Brunello, DaMilano, Balenzia, Global Desi, Clarks, AND, Mac V, Ayesha, Giva, Azorte, Ancestry and other high-end international brands will be showcased, along with well-known faces walking the runway.
Where: 1 MG LIDO Mall, MG Road
When: Nov 19, 8pm onwards
Contact: 9741183199

02 'Tis Men's Day

Wonderla Holidays Ltd, India's largest amusement park, is extending special offers on Men's Day where men can participate in the contest and get a free ticket to the park. As a part of the contest, Wonderla is organising fun activities in each park before the entry point and the first 100 participants who put out an impressive show will win free tickets.
Details: wonderla.com/offers/mens-day-offer.html

03 Tune in!

As part of other stellar performances lined up at Hard Rock Cafe St Marks Road, Bangalore-based band Maiden Voyage is playing tribute to the heavy metal band Iron Maiden. The brand promises all the Maiden fans the ultimate essence of being at a Maiden show. Tune into some of the best tracks this Saturday night paired with great food and drinks.
Where: Hard Rock Café, St Marks Road
When: Nov 19, 9pm onwards
Tickets: Book My Show & Insider

CBSE students tackle exam pattern changes

Many students say they are confused over 'one board exam' system announced by CBSE; schools conduct special sessions for clarity

Saumyangi Yadav
c-saumyangi.yadav
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

The sessions aim at helping Class 10 students adjust to new exam patterns this academic year

Bengaluru schools are hosting webinars and special sessions to help students and parents understand the new board examination pattern announced by CBSE this academic year.

This year for the 2022-23 academic session, the education board decided to go back to the 'one board exam' system instead of having split-term boards exams. Last academic session, the CBSE had announced holding two term-end exams as part of the special assessment scheme for Class 10 and 12 board examinations as a "one-time measure" in view of the covid-19 pandemic.

However, due to the frequent changes in the examination pattern, it had created confusion among the students and parents as well regarding how the examinations are going to be conducted, informed school managements.

> **"The webinar addresses new syllabus change and change in exam pattern**
> –a faculty member, KMV Red Hills High School

"There were some questions from the parents and students regarding how the exams are going to be conducted and assessed. We did a webinar for Class 10 students exclusively to address these issues which mainly focused around the new syllabus change and the change in examination pattern for this academic year," said a faculty member from KMV Red Hills High School in Bengaluru.

On the other hand, the schools also said that they prefer the one-board exam system for the students and were glad that it has been implemented once again.

"We also conducted a similar explanatory session in the past with students. We do it every year but this year, with changes in the CBSE examination pattern, we thought it was necessary for the parents and children to be well-informed about the entire thing. It is not very difficult for the school management to cope with the changes because we know this system very well and have been doing it every year before the pandemic," said Utsa Banerjee, Senior Coordinator, Orchids, The International School.

"We have been trying to train the students accordingly and prepare them for the board exam since the beginning of the academic year... One exam is definitely much better for the students. The exam papers prepared during the covid time were also easier," she added.

Parents also informed that they are glad that the old system has been restored.

"There was some confusion at the beginning regarding which system will be followed. However, I think it is good that the schools are going back to the one-examination system as it is more reliable and gives more scope for competition. The kids will also have to go through the board exam tension just once and can prepare better for it the whole year," said Chaitra, a parent.

BBMP forest dept short of hands

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

also hampering the execution of special projects. The forest department is tasked with various activities such as motivating the citizen to plant saplings in their areas, conducting wildlife rescue, maintaining trees, conducting plantation drives and executing special projects such as tree census amongst other assignments.

"With just 15 staff for all 243 wards, we are neither able to inspect every area nor are capable of attending to all the complaints we receive from the public. This is the root cause behind a lot of work undone and projects not being initiated. Moreover, while on the ground, our workers face a lot of life-threatening situations; currently they are working round the clock," an official told BM.

Under such circumstances, activists are now questioning BBMP's recent decision to take up full responsibility and power to protect and manage all the trees in the city.

The responsibility was recently shifted to BBMP's deputy conservator of forests from Bengaluru Urban's deputy conservator of forests who reports to the Karnataka forest department. Until then, as a tree officer, the BBMP DCF had jurisdiction only over avenue trees and parks managed by the civic body.

"They limited the power of Bengaluru Urban DCF and brought every responsibility to their department's ambit knowing fully well that they do not have enough manpower. This was uncalled for under the given circumstances. I have raised this issue multiple times with the concerned authorities. It is not just that they do not have enough staff, no one wants to work there either. The forest cell must be strengthened immediately," said Dattatreya Devare, trustee of Bangalore Environment Trust.

Experts are of the view that this is a common problem across all departments, and only highlights bad planning and poor governance.

"When you are facing an environment-related crisis in a city known for its green cover, a short-staffed forest department does not send the right message. We are living in the 21st century but it feels like the governance is still in the 19th. People often get the impression that the officials are not working well. The issue is shortage of manpower. This is a serious problem and there has to be a clear policy for municipal staffing and capacity enhancement. The current recruitment process should undergo reform," said Srinivas Alavilli, head of civic participation at Janaagraha Centre for Citizenship & Democracy.

Alavilli further noted that the situation points to the corruption that has crept into the recruitment process.

"Though so many positions are lying vacant, the salaries have already been earmarked in the annual budget... The process of recruiting has not happened. What is the concerned minister doing? Moreover, strengthening the growth of any department should be commensurate with the growth of the city. While the city is growing, government departments are short-staffed," he told BM.

All aboard for more buses but what about manpower?

BMTC to increase buses to 10,000 in next few years but lack of staff, patrons may be an issue

Sridhar.Vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Public transport users are in for some good news as the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) plans to take the overall number of buses in the city to 10,000 in the next few years. However, a staff crunch and lack of users will be the bigger challenges.

Currently, there are 6,500 buses available in BMTC. BMTC's Director (IT) AV Surya Sen said, "We have drawn up a plan to increase the total number of buses in the city to 8,000 by 2024 and then add another 2,000 buses thereafter."

Two-pronged strategy

A senior BMTC official explained that the plan was to increase the bus fleet strength to 10,000 as the city's population is growing. They have taken up a two-pronged strategy.

"The first one is to expand the existing depots so that more buses can be allocated to that particular depot and secondly, increase the number of depots. As of now, there are plans to start at least five depots in the city's outskirts for which, land is being scouted for."

Challenges ahead

Sen said, "Currently, our biggest challenge is shortage of crew. Around 600 to 700 buses are not being operated on a daily basis due to lack of manpower. Hence, we have been able to operate only 5,600 buses on a daily basis. We have requested the State Government to provide more support in terms of hiring staffers. Unless the crew issue is sorted out, the procurement of 10,000 buses would be a dream. We are trying all the possible measures like hiring outsourced employees and recruitment. This will take a lot of time. Meanwhile, we are also searching land for constructing new depots."

Move welcome, but reliability is key

Srinivas Alavilli of Janaagraha said, "We have been demanding that the total number of buses in BMTC should be increased to 15,000. As of now, BMTC is the only public transport that covers the entire city as Metro would require at least another five years to increase its network."

Srinivas added that there needs to be a lot done to increase the patronage of buses. According to him, the first thing is reliability as the commuter needs to know as to when the next bus is arriving. The BMTC app is a long pending one and if implemented successfully, it will help the commuter track when the next bus is arriving. Secondly, people take personal vehicles or cabs so that they can reach their destinations faster as the buses stop frequently to pick up passengers. So, the answer is to increase the speed of the buses. For this, there has to be dedicated bus lanes. There are plans to start bus lanes on 12 roads. The government can also look at introducing bus lanes on those which are six-lane roads, he explained.

"We already have a successful Bus Rapid Transit System at Hubballi-Dharwad and Ahmedabad. Thirdly, the companies also need to incentivise their employees who use public transport. This will encourage more employees to take buses and the employees will reach on time, productivity will increase and stress will reduce," he said.

Meanwhile, Sen said that the updated BMTC app is likely to be launched next month.

Doc in the dock for taking pics, videos of patients

CRIME FILES

A doctor has been arrested by the CCB police for allegedly taking videos of undressed women under the pretext of giving treatment. Police said that the doctor of a naturopathy clinic in Yeshwanthpur would take inappropriate photos and videos of women including minors saying that he needed the images to study the disease.

Recently, a woman went to the doctor's clinic to get a check-up done when he recorded her. Later, her family filed a complaint at the Yeswanthpur Police Station. "His phone has been confiscated and a lot of videos and photos of his patients were found," said the police.

Drug peddler duo nabbed

The Central Crime Branch (CCB) has nabbed two friends who allegedly used to supply drugs to customers online. According to the police, the accused are Priya and Sigil, both residents of Electronics City. The police have seized drugs worth Rs 5 lakh including 23 MDMA weighing 11.37 gram. They have seized two mobile phones from the accused.

"Both are originally from Kerala and came to the city four years ago. They were engaged in drug peddling to make easy money. They used to buy drugs at low price from Mangaluru and Kerala and sell it in Bengaluru at a high price," said the police.

One of the accused was also arrested in March by Hulimavu police for selling drugs. Later he got out on bail. A team led by Inspector Deepak of the CCB Narcotics Control Squad arrested the accused.

Special tahsildar in soup

A special tahsildar posted in Bengaluru north has been trapped by the Lokayukta police for accepting a bribe of Rs 5 lakh.

According to the police, special tehsildar Varsha Wodeyar and a middleman Ramesh allegedly took a bribe from a man for changing a land khata name. The man who they were demanding bribe from has been identified as Kantaraj. "When the accused demanded a bribe, the man approached Lokayukta and filed a complaint. Then, a special team led by DySP Anthony John conducted an investigation," said the police.

Kantaraj was asked by Ramesh to come to the parking area of a hospital near Kandaya Bhavan. "The police were informed about this in advance. Ramesh was caught red-handed. Later the police went to Varsha's office after Ramesh informed them that he was taking the bribe on the instruction of the special tahsildar. The officer was arrested right after she confessed," said the police

Varsha Wodeyar is a KAS officer who was posted as the special tahsildar of Bengaluru north a few months ago.

Fake sexual assault case

An actress was arrested for making a false sexual assault complaint. The woman had registered a case at Hennur police station on October 30 that she was molested by a bike taxi driver. Further investigation proved that she had made a false statement. "On October 30, around 10 pm, she had booked a bike. However, she cancelled the ride in some time and the driver didn't even go to the location," said the police. In the complaint, the woman had said that the driver spoke rudely to her and tried to touch her in an inappropriate way, said the police.

Bheemashankar S Guled, DCP East, said, "There is no evidence that the driver was even there. So, it has been ruled as a false case."

—Ahna Prakash

VK Vijaya Karnataka | BangaloreMirror

Tomorrow @ 12.30PM
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VK PHONE-IN PROGRAM

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- Are cases of piles increasing day by day ?
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Students take the pledge for road safety

Iffath Fathima
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

More than 100 students of Sophia High School took to the roads on Wednesday to spread awareness on road safety.

The students stood on footpaths between the Basaveshwara Circle and Sophia School Junction holding placards carrying messages on road safety.

The campaign was organised by Namma Bengaluru Foundation in association with the Traffic Police and Sophia High School.

The programme was flagged off by Kala Krishnaswamy, DCP Traffic East Division.

The junction is notorious for its high traffic movement and several violations have occurred where people were found speeding or breaking the traffic signal rules.

Students spread the messages of following traffic rules, lane discipline, zebra crossing, pedestrian safety, stopping at signals, no footboard travel, adhering to city speed limits, making way for ambulance, wearing helmets and seatbelts and no rash and drunken driving.

They held cards like, "Brake before you break", "Drive slower, live longer", "Speed thrills but kills", "Brake haki, horn yake", "Alert today, live tomorrow", "Don't drive on sidewalks, it's for walking, "Kill your speed, not others", and many more.

The students even took a pledge on road safety and promised to continue creating awareness to citizens of Bengaluru.

Safety for all

Vinod Jacob, the General Manager of Namma Bengaluru Foundation said, "Road safety is not only about wearing your helmet and seat belt but about following all the traffic rules when you are driving. It's important to look out for other motorists and pedestrians and the safety of all.

"We are having the road safety awareness drive to create awareness among the public to follow traffic rules and ride safely so as to make Bengaluru roads safer for everyone. Better lane discipline, no one-way entry, no signal jumping and no parking on main roads are crucial to reduce traffic accidents and traffic jams."

Krishnaswamy added that the campaign was very relevant for road safety.

Creating awareness by spreading messages of following lane discipline, wearing helmet, wearing seat belt, adhering to speed limits and such other road discipline measures goes a long way in improving road safety for citizens, he said.

Students of Sophia High School at the campaign

Banner bane of Bengaluru

Kanakapura Road residents are perplexed by flexes being put up in their area once again; despite FIRs being filed, little to no improvement has been spotted

Saumyangi Yadav
c-saumyangi.yadav
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The issue of illegal flex boards does not seem to be going away in the city. Despite several drives to remove these boards and FIRs filed against perpetrators, there has been little improvement with regard to the situation.

Recently, residents of Kanakapura Road woke up to a number of huge banners once again, installed on the roadside and metro pillars.

VK Srivatsa, a resident of the area and member of Changemakers of Kanakapura Road (CMKR), told Bangalore Mirror that the issue had stopped for two months after an FIR was lodged by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) about the persistent issue.

"It had not completely stopped even then, but was at least not happening at a very huge scale. Now they have started to put up huge flex banners again all across the road," he said. Residents said that not only is it illegal, but also poses a threat to them as the banners might fall due to rain and heavy winds.

BangaloreMirror
Kanakapura citizens point to 'flexible' flaw
Infuriated residents of Kanakapura Road file mass complaints against flex posters; say BBMP removes them but does not take action against offenders

BM's report on August 30 about Kanakapura dwellers being frustrated by flexes

When residents in the area complained about these flexes to the BBMP, pourakarmikas were seen taking them down later during the same day

> **It is the joint responsibility of the ARO and the engineering department to remove the flexes. I can just convey the issue to the police**
>
> –Devaraj, BBMP

BBMP Assistant Revenue Officer (ARO), Devaraj, said "It is the joint responsibility of the ARO and the engineering department to remove the flex banners. I can just convey the issue to the police, but the rest has to be done by the engineering department." "Since this morning, I have received several complaints about the banners, and we have informed the concerned authorities too. Two months ago, we had filed an FIR against the people putting up the banners, but the issue is still persistent," he added.

The provisions of the Karnataka Municipalities Act (KMC) 1976 and the Karnataka Open Places (Prevention Disfigurement) Act 1981 prohibit the use of flex banners in the state. Ater the residents complained to the BBMP about the flexes, a few pourakarmikas were seen removing the banners later in the day. "I complained to the BBMP again because they are not supposed to engage the pourakarmikas for this work. After that, the work was halted again," said Srivatsa.

Previously, Bangalore Mirror had reported on the issue in August when residents of nearby areas filed a mass complaint against illegal flex boards. However, since no action has been taken against the recurring issue, they are now planning to file a complaint with the Lokayukta.

Mandur landfill's 'cleaning of lifetime'

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Residents of Mandur and nearby villages are set to get much-needed relief from stench and smoke emanating from the landfill where around 10 lakh metric tonnes of mixed garbage is dumped. A function was held on Tuesday to mark the commencement of clearing the waste.

Touted as the first-of-its-kind project in south India, the clearing of the garbage is expected to be completed in two years. "We have taken up a major project to clear a huge quantity of garbage from the landfill at an estimated cost of Rs 89 crore," said Bangalore Solid Waste Management Limited general manager Parameshwaraiah.

He said that measures would be taken to segregate the mixed waste scientifically.

According to sources, the state government has decided to clean the landfill spreading over 130 acres. The plan will start with 50 acres being cleaned first.

"The clearing of garbage from the remaining 80 acres will be taken up in the second phase of the project," said an official.

The waste will be scientifically segregated into recyclable and compostable material. Hazardous material will be disposed of appropriately and construction waste will be used for making construction material.

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

The state government has decided to start with cleaning 50 acres of the landfill first

> **Residents in and around Mandur are elated as the much-awaited clearing of the landfill is expected to be completed in two years**

It is also believed that a portion of the reclaimed land would be given to Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam to construct a temple. The remaining land will be utilised for public amenities.

Residents of Mandur have been elated about MLA Aravind Limbavali performing 'bhoomi pooja' to commence the cleaning.

"We have been struggling all these years to cope with bad odour and smoke emanating from the landfill. We held discussions with village panchayat members. Finally, we approached our MLA and requested him to help us by taking measures to clear the garbage," said Srichandra Menon, a resident.

Rajib Mishra, president of Shriram Greenfield, said, "Clearing garbage from the landfill is our long-pending demand. We have been requesting our MLA all these years. He has finally taken the initiative and all of us are very happy."

Describing the beginning of clearing garbage from the landfill as a 'life changing initiative', Mahadevapura Task Force Convener Lingaraj Urs said "All the residents are welcoming removal of the garbage mountain and its handing over land for public amenities."

It may be recalled that Mandur was under the spotlight in June 2014 when villagers protested against dumping garbage at the landfill by the Palike. Freedom fighter late HS Doreswamy was at the forefront of the protest. Finally, the BBMP, which began dumping garbage at the landfill in 2008, stopped doing the same in November 2014.

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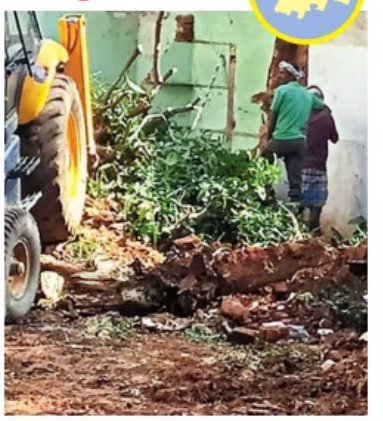
Trees axed
RT Nagar


Two healthy mango trees were illegally felled overnight at Dr Ambedkar Layout, Kavalbyrasandra, RT Nagar.

Priorities wrong
Sadashivanagar

A tree is being chopped to make space for a hidden hoarding at Bashyam Circle, Sadashivanagar.

Pothole free city?
Marathahalli

The road under Marathahalli flyover next to the railway track is a mess with large potholes.

Check... check... branch check at Cubbon Park

Garima Prasher
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

After a tree branch fell on a visitor at Cubbon Park, the Horticulture Department has begun inspecting each tree inside the park. Dead branches are being trimmed to ensure they do not pose a threat to walkers.

Zibi Jamal, a regular walker at the park, was sitting on a bench near the Band Stand area a couple of days ago when a branch came crashing down, hitting her on her forehead. "I heard a creaking sound and immediately some branches fell on my side. I moved backwards and the next second a big branch hit my forehead. My phone flew out of my hand due to the impact," Jamal said.

She added that other walkers came to her rescue. Later, she reached out to the Cubbon Park Horticulture Department officials and updated them.

Taking note of this, a survey of every tree inside the park has now been started. "This was an unfortunate incident and to avoid any such cases in the future, I have informed the director of the Horticulture department and have asked him to carry out a comprehensive survey of the entire park," said Rajendra Kumar Kataria, Principal Secretary, Horticulture Department. "The park has over 9,000 trees and there are some old trees too. So, the chances of such accidents are high," he added.

While spotting weak tree branches and pruning them is a routine exercise, it was delayed this time due to the incessant rainfall over the last month. "We follow a calendar of three months to inspect each and every tree inside the park. It was delayed this time due to continuous rain and other activities of the department," explained Kataria.

According to HT Balakrishna, deputy director of Horticulture Department (Cubbon Park), the department has begun pruning trees starting November 14. "We are taking all precautionary measures, inspecting each and every tree and every dry limb is being removed. The survey should take another week," he said.

FRAGILE. HANDLE WITH CARE

After 2 suicide cases, teachers, schools caught in quandary over mental health matters

Saumyangi Yadav
c-saumyangi.yadav
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Following two recent cases of student suicides in the city, teachers find themselves in a tough spot. On Sunday, a 16-year-old student allegedly died by suicide on Sunday after being pulled up at her school for cheating during a term exam. The incident was followed by a protest on Monday by the girl's parents in front of the school premises.

Lask week a 16-year-old boy too allegedly died by suicide after he was caught cheating during a class test.

These back-to-back incidents have put teachers and school associations around the city in a dilemma about their duties and behaviour with the students.

Karnataka Associated Managements of English Medium Schools (KAMS) general secretary D Shashi Kumar said, "We do have sympathy for these recent incidents but on the other hand I believe that the teacher or the school association should not be held accountable for minimum intervention within their permissible limit. If a teacher cannot question the misbehaviour or misconduct of a child, it will cause the violation of other children's rights. This apart, it would defeat the rightful duty of the teacher."

"We condemn the parents taking the law into their hands and harming the teachers' roles and responsibilities for something that is not their mistake. The behavioral issues and mental health of a child should be the parent's responsibility," he added.

Teachers added that since the pandemic, students have been exhibiting several behavioral issues.

"Since the schools recently reopened after two years, the students have been struggling to adapt to the formal classroom environment again. They have also been exhibiting several behavioral problems while interacting with their peers as well as the faculty members as for two complete years they have been isolated in the comfort of their homes. Now it has become a very sensitive area for the teachers to manage these children on a day-to-day basis," said a teacher while speaking to Bangalore Mirror.

"If a student is struggling, teachers should be mindful of that as there are different means of disciplining different children

—Dr. Girishchandra, Aster CMI Hospital

Mental health experts suggest that to avoid such incidents in schools, teachers should identify early warning signs in the students, if they observe any.

Dr. Girishchandra, Senior Consultant (Psychiatry), Aster CMI Hospital, said, "Such events can either be triggered by any underlying mental health disorder or it can also be an impulsive response to any situation that they are unable to manage. If a student is struggling and there are alarms beforehand, the teachers should be mindful of that as there are different ways of disciplining different children."

"However from a teacher's perspective, it can be difficult in case of substitutes or invigilators who sometimes do not even know the student personally," Dr. Girishchandra added.

Currently, only a few schools have full-time counselors for students as well as faculty on campus due to the overall lack of mental health workers in the country and the lack of resources in the schools.

To cope with that, the schools can organise mental health workshops and seminars for the children and teachers, Dr. Girishchandra added.

Sexual assault on minor: Man held

A man has been arrested by Talaghattapura police for allegedly sexually assaulting a 15-year-old girl. The case has been registered under the Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) as the parents have alleged that the girl was raped.

The accused is a relative of the victim. The accused took the victim to a deserted area and raped her on November 15 at night, said the police.

"When the police were making rounds at night, they saw two people walking in a deserted area and heard some noises. Then both of them were questioned and it was found that the girl is a minor," said P Krishnakant, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Bangalore South. —BMB

Ambulance staffers threaten strike

The 108 ambulance staff have once again threatened to go on strike over non-payment of salaries. The patients are worried that if there is a strike, it would affect critical healthcare. Reacting to this, Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar said, "I have held meetings with the ambulance staff and requested them not to go on strike as the salary issues will be resolved. I have requested them not to resort to strike till December as the current contract will get over and a new company will be on board by then. It is our responsibility to give salaries." —BMB

Man kills self over fights with spouse

A man is said to have died by suicide allegedly because of frequent fights with his wife.

The case has been registered at Hanumantha Nagar Police Station. According to the police, he has also left a suicide note. "He has left a note which says that no matter how hard he works, his wife always fights with him and is never happy," said the police. The police visited their house on Wednesday and are still investigating the case. The couple were married for five years and the man used to work in a bar as a cashier. He is said to have been depressed due to the daily quarrels. —BMB

jobs

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I, CHANDRA SEKHAR REDDY DASARAIAHGARI, Residing at No. 36, Nambiar Bellezea Narayanaghatta Village, Muthanalluru Circle, Sarjapura, Bengaluru-560099, have changed my minor son's name from VIGHANAJITH REDDY DASARAIAHGARI to VIGHNAJITH REDDY DASARAIAHGARI, vide affidavit dated: 16.11.2022 before notary V. Rajashekhara, Blore.

I, NAMITA alias NAMITA NIASI alias NAMITA RAMACHANDRAN NAIR, W/o AKASH NIASI, R/o No. 3444 4th Floor, Prestige Kew Gardens, Yemalur, Bengaluru - 560037, Karnataka, have changed my name as NAMITA NAIR, vide affidavit dated 15.11.2022 sworn before notary Rajanna S.M, Bengaluru.

I, Arshiya Begum R/o Ward No-8 , Opp. Ambedkar Hostel , Malur Town Kolar -563130 have changed my name to Arshiya Khanum for all purposes.

I, SUDHAKARAN CHOYI, Residing at No. 310, Sri Pearl Park Apt, Mysore Road, Kengeri, Bengaluru-560060, have changed my name to SUDHAKARAN KOORANTAVIDA, vide affidavit dated: 16.11.2022 before Notary V. Rajashekhara, Bengaluru.

I, Priya Dattatreya Deshpande w/o Ajay Awdhut Unkal R/o A-301, Temple bell premier, Kenchnahalli, R.R Nagar, Bengaluru 560098 have changed my name to Priya Dattatraya Deshpande affidavit Dt.16/11/2022 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, Tushar Sutar S/O, Mukesh Sutar R/o No-2, Banaswadi Main Road, Near Madahavji Timber, Banaswadi, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560043 have changed my name to Tushar Mukesh Sutar for all purposes

I, Krupa Subhashini w/o Sundeep P Selvam R/o #592, 5th cross, Ayyappa Lyt, Marathahalli B'luru 560037 have changed my name to Krupa Subhashini Susairaj affidavit Dt.16/11/2022 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I Yasser R/O # 8-1-398/PM/215, paramount colony, Rethi Bowli, Golconda, Hyderabad, Telangana, 500008, have changed my name to Yasser Mohammad Iqbal

I Nidhi Mishra, W/o Digvijay Singh R/a Flat No. TF2, Maruti Residency, Green Glen Layout, Bellandur , B'lore-560103 have changed my name to Nidhi Singh vide affidavit dated 16.11.2022 before Notary B.M.Chandrashekar

I, Irfana Begum Ashfak Pasha W/o Ashfak Pasha R/o No. 410, 7 B Main, HRBR I Block, Kalyannagar, Bangalore-560043 have changed my name to Irfana Begum for all purposes

I,HARINATH Jupalle R/o.103-1/2,,Bilishivale, Srk Nagar Post, Bengaluru-560077 have changed my minor Son name from Dhhushyanth Jupalle to DHUSHYANTH JUPALLE affidavit Dt. 16/11/2022 before notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

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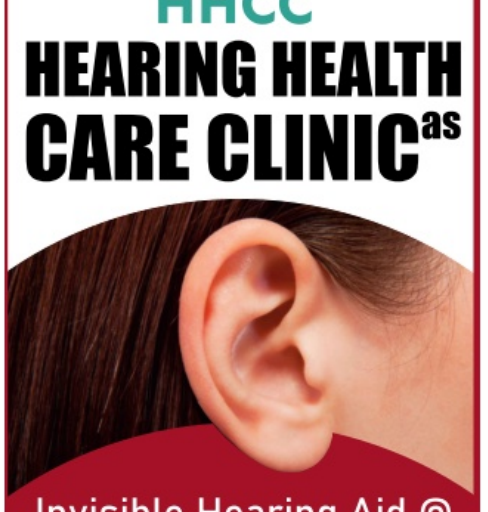

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Suspension of PU teachers draws flak

Nine faculty members are currently suspended due to 'erroneous evaluation'

Saumyangi Yadav
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Out of the 10 suspended teachers, five are from the Physics department, others, English

After the Department of Pre-University Education issued an order suspending nine faculty members from government PU colleges, the Karnataka State Pre-University College Teachers' Association has condemned the action.

The Department of Pre-University Education cited erroneous evaluation in the II PU annual examinations held during 2022 April/May as the reason behind the suspension. Along with the nine suspended faculty members, a member from a private unaided college has also faced disciplinary action. However, the Karnataka State Pre-University College Teachers' Association has said that according to the existing examination rules in the state, the suspension is unreasonable.

Ninge Gowda, president of the association, told Bangalore Mirror, "As per the examination rule, the maximum penalty that a faculty member can receive for wrong evaluation is to be withheld and blacklisted for the next five years from evaluation work." The suspension order said that they had failed to evaluate the last few pages of the answer scripts. The evaluator had reportedly failed to evaluate the last seven pages and even the deputy chief evaluators failed to notice the mistake. Along with the evaluator, the faculty members who were deputed as deputy evaluators have also been suspended. The Karnataka Pre-University Course State Level Public Examination Rules, 1997, states that for a failure to award marks to more than three questions or parts of questions resulting in the alteration of result, a penalty of Rs 100 per mistake shall be levied and the examiner shall be debarred from appointment as an examiner for three years.

> **The maximum penalty a faculty member can receive for wrong evaluation is to be withdeld for five years from evaluation work**
>
> –Ninge Gowda, teacher's association president

"The suspension has been issued on the basis of Karnataka Civil. Services Rules (conduct), 202,1 which is not legal. These have to be levied when there is some misconduct by the faculty and it has already been reported to the institute. For examination and evaluation, these rules cannot be applied," said Gowda.

Out of the 10 suspended, five are from the Physics Department and the others are from the English Department, the president of the teachers' association informed.

The association will be meeting the director of the Department of Pre-University education to discuss the circumstances of the suspension and to demand the withdrawal of the order.

Flowers wilting sans market

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

been selling. But with the recent directive, we are left with no channel to sell our produce. Officially, we do not have a market," said Lohith of the Farmers and Anekal Taluk Greenhouse Growers Welfare Development Association.

Flower growing is a very costly affair; farmers end up taking up huge loans in the process. An estimated Rs 40 lakh per acre is required for growing flowers. Anticipating a jackpot with the upcoming event season, farmers had prepared large stocks; now they are left with mounting debts.

Gopal Reddy, a flower grower from Anekal Taluk, said for the past 15 days or so they have not been able to sell a single flower. "Nobody is ready to take the flowers; some are quoting lower prices. As of now, I have 300-400 bunches out of which flowers worth Rs 2-3 lakh have been destroyed. We are asking the government for a dedicated market space for export quality flowers. Moreover, the rising cost of maintaining and growing flowers has added to our loss," Reddy told BM. Reddy has a four-acre greenhouse where he grows Gerbera, Gypsophila and rose flowers.

> **Anticipating a jackpot with the upcoming event season, farmers had prepared large stocks; now they are left with mounting debts**

Flower grower Syed Shahid said prices of fertilisers have shot up too. "Before covid, a bag of calcium nitrate cost Rs 700-750; Now it is costing around Rs 3,000 and sometimes not available. Farmers have been struggling to grow flowers in this climate; the closing down of Wilson Garden market is a fatal blow. We are not selling ornamental flowers at Rs 40 at Kalasipalyam which does not even meet the sapling cost. In the last two-three days, we had to throw away 1,800 bunches from our farm. Even the cold storage facility has reached its maximum limit," said Shahid.

Shahid estimated that he lost around Rs 5-6 lakh in the past few days alone.

Growers BM spoke to also said flower markets in Kalasipalyam and KR Market are not suited for exporting quality flowers and it's not viable to sell to International Flower Auction Bengaluru (IFAB) near Hebbal due to the distance involved.

Meanwhile, to help the farmers, the horticulture department is drafting temporary and long-term plans.

"We have suggested the creation of a provision for auctioning flowers other than roses at IFAB. There is a temporary measure to use an open space in Byatarayanapura, opposite L&T tech park where they can sell their produce. As a permanent solution, we have seen a 5-acre land portion of GKVK that was handed over to the Animal Husbandry department. We are planning to earmark the land for a new flower auction centre and set up a platform for growers to sell domestically and outside the country," Rajendra Kumar Kataria, principal secretary, horticulture department, told BM.

Kataria added that previous efforts to set up a dedicated market in Indiranagar had faced opposition from flower growers.

City techies lauded at Tech Summit 2022

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated the 25th edition of Bengaluru Tech Summit 2022. In his inaugural address, he praised IT professionals from Bengaluru for creating innovative technology products that helped the country navigate the tough times during the pandemic. Modi gave the example of Ayushman Bharat, 'one of the world's largest insurance programs that was implemented seamlessly because of the efforts of India's technology professionals.'

New knowledge cities, startup park

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced the setting up of six new cities in Karnataka to promote the growth of the knowledge and technology sectors. These new cities will be developed in Kalaburagi, Hubballi-Dharwad, Mangaluru, Mysuru, and Bengaluru. These cities will be well planned, high-tech, and help promote IT, BT, and startups. A dedicated startup park will be developed near the airport. He had also announced that a knowledge and technology city will be created near the airport.

Genome Plateau of India

Today, the genomic wellness line has made sequencing accessible to any person who wants to get it done. With India's present-day research investment value being Rs 80-90 billion dollars, with a target of becoming valued at Rs 300 billion by 2030 and Rs 500 by 2040, Dr Vijay Chandru, Co-Founder & Director, Strand Life Sciences, points that this level of development and the success stories in the field of genome sequencing qualifies Bengaluru to be called 'enome Plateau of India'.

Minister for IT-BT, Science and Technology, Dr C N Aswath Narayan said that various electronic companies involving a big ticket investment of Rs 36,804 crore have evinced interest in putting up their production units in various parts of the state.

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FLY ME TO THE MOON

NASA's mightiest moon rocket lifts off 50 years after Apollo

The Space Launch System (SLS) rocket with the Orion crew capsule, lifts off from launch complex 39-B on the unmanned Artemis 1 mission to the moon, seen from Sebastian, Florida; Spectators watch the rocket lift off

NASA aims to send four astronauts around the moon on the next flight, in 2024, and land humans there as early as 2025

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.

NASA's new moon rocket blasted off on its debut flight with three test dummies aboard Wednesday, bringing the US a big step closer to putting astronauts back on the lunar surface for the first time since the end of the Apollo program 50 years ago.

If all goes well during the three-week, make-or-break shakedown flight, the crew capsule will be propelled into a wide orbit around the moon and then return to Earth with a Pacific splashdown in December.

After years of delays and billions in cost overruns, the Space Launch System rocket thundered skyward, rising from Kennedy Space Center on 8.8 million pounds (4 million kilograms) of thrust and hitting 100 mph (160 kph) within seconds. The Orion capsule was perched on top and, less than two hours into the flight, busted out of Earth's orbit toward the moon.

"It was overwhelming," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. "We're going out to explore the heavens, and this is the next step."

The moonshot follows nearly three months of vexing fuel leaks that kept the rocket bouncing between its hangar and the pad. Forced back indoors by Hurricane Ian at the end of September, the rocket stood its ground outside as Nicole swept through last week with gusts of more than 80 mph (130 kph). Although the wind caused some damage, managers gave the green light for the launch.

An estimated 15,000 people jammed the launch site, with thousands more lining the beaches and roads outside the gates, to witness NASA's long-awaited sequel to Project Apollo, when 12 astronauts walked on the moon from 1969 and 1972. Crowds also gathered outside NASA centers in Houston and Huntsville, Alabama, to watch the spectacle on giant screens.

Cheers accompanied the rocket as it rode a huge trail of flames toward space, with a half-moon glowing brightly and buildings shaking as though hit by a major quake. "For the Artemis generation, this is for you," launch director Charlie Blackwell-Thompson called out, referring to all those born after Apollo. She told her team: "You have earned your place in history."

The liftoff marked the start of NASA's Artemis lunar-exploration program, named after Apollo's mythological twin sister. The space agency is aiming to send four astronauts around the moon on the next flight, in 2024, and land humans there as early as 2025.

The 322-foot (98-meter) SLS is the most powerful rocket ever built by NASA, with more thrust than either the space shuttle or the mighty Saturn V that carried men to the moon. A series of hydrogen fuel leaks plagued the summertime launch attempts as well as countdown tests. A fresh leak erupted at a new location during Tuesday night's fueling, but an emergency team managed to tighten the faulty valve on the pad. Then a U.S. Space Force radar station went down, resulting in another scramble, this time to replace an ethernet switch.

"The rocket, it's alive. It's creaking. It's making venting noises. It's pretty scary," said Trent Annis, one of the three men who entered the blast danger zone to fix Tuesday night's leak. "My heart was pumping. My nerves were going. But yeah, we showed up today."

Orion should reach the moon by Monday, more than 230,000 miles (370,000 kilometers) from Earth. After coming within 80 miles (130 kilometers) of the moon, the capsule will enter a far-flung orbit stretching about 40,000 miles (64,000 kilometers) beyond.

The $4.1 billion test flight is set to last 25 days, roughly the same as when crews will be aboard. The space agency intends to push the spacecraft to its limits and uncover any problems before astronauts strap in. The mannequins — NASA calls them moonequins — are fitted with sensors to measure such things as vibration, acceleration and cosmic radiation.

Nelson cautioned "things will go wrong" during this demo. A few minor issues already have cropped up in flight, although preliminary indications were the boosters and engines performed well.

"There's definitely relief that we're underway," mission manager Mike Sarafin told reporters. But he added: "I personally am not going to rest well until we get safely to splashdown and recovery."

The rocket was supposed to have made its dry run by 2017. Government watchdogs estimate NASA will have spent $93 billion on the project by 2025.

Ultimately, NASA hopes to establish a base on the moon and send astronauts to Mars by the late 2030s or early 2040s.

But many hurdles still need to be cleared. The Orion capsule will take astronauts only to lunar orbit, not the surface.

NASA has hired Elon Musk's SpaceX to develop Starship, the 21st-century answer to Apollo's lunar lander. Starship will carry astronauts back and forth between Orion and the lunar surface, at least on the first trip in 2025. The plan is to station Starship and eventually other companies' landers in orbit around the moon, ready for use whenever new Orion crews pull up.

Reprising an argument that was made during the 1960s, Duke University historian Alex Roland questions the value of human spaceflight, saying robots and remote-controlled spacecraft could get the job done more cheaply, efficiently and safely.

"In all these years, no evidence has emerged to justify the investment we have made in human spaceflight — save the prestige involved in this conspicuous consumption," he said.

NASA is waiting until this test flight is over before introducing the astronauts who will be on the next one and those who will follow in the bootsteps of Apollo 11's Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin.

Most of NASA's corps of 42 active astronauts and 10 trainees were not even born yet when Apollo 17 moonwalkers Gene Cernan and Harrison Schmitt closed out the era, 50 years ago next month. "We are jumping out of our spacesuits with excitement," astronaut Christina Koch said Tuesday. **AP**

BITS & BYTES

NO DISTURBANCES

Google has announced that it will soon allow users to schedule recurring 'Do Not Disturb' (DND) feature on its Chats platform.

After the new feature rolls out on Android, iOS and the web, "set a do not disturb schedule" will display below the various time increments, reports 9To5Google. Users can create multiple toggles and activate or deactivate them from the settings. The feature will help "when you want to mute notifications during your regular lunch break, or have Do Not Disturb set automatically over the weekend while away from your desk," Google said. **–IANS**

HYPER SUPER

US chip designer and computing firm Nvidia Corp on Wednesday said it is teaming up with Microsoft Corp to build a "massive" computer to handle intense artificial intelligence computing work in the cloud.

The AI computer will operate on Microsoft's Azure cloud, using tens of thousands of graphics processing units (GPUs), Nvidia's most powerful H100 and its A100 chips. Nvidia declined to say how much the deal is worth, but industry sources said each A100 chip is priced at about $10,000 to $12,000, and the H100 is far more expensive than that. **– Reuters**

COURTING TROUBLE

Elon Musk, known for his combative testimony, took the stand in a Delaware court on Wednesday to defend against claims that his $56 billion Tesla Inc pay package was based on easy performance targets and approved by a compliant board of directors.

Musk began by answering questions from his attorney about his history at Tesla and described how the company was struggling to survive in 2017, when the pay package was developed.

"I thought it was extremely unlikely," he said in response to a question of whether he thought at the time if Tesla would succeed. **–Reuters**

HEALTH TIP: Vitamin B6 supplements could help reduce anxiety and depression

When it comes to sugary foods, it is important to be aware of how much you are consuming. Be mindful of your portion sizes

mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/thebangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

HEAR THIS COLOUR?

How frequencies can boost sleep, soothe anxiety, and even improve your memory

Do you like to sleep beside a whirring fan? Does the sound of the ocean feel soothing? Or do you work best when there's a thunderstorm? If you answered yes to any of these, you may be using coloured noise to impact your mood without realising it.

These sounds, each with a subtly different mix of frequencies, are spread across a visual spectrum giving them a colour such as white, brown and pink. Many people swear by their power to help them drop off, relax or even concentrate better.

"Different frequencies activate and stimulate your brain in different ways," says neuroscientist Dr Tara Swart, who hosts the Reinvent Yourself With Dr Tara podcast. So which colour is right for you?

White for sleep

White noise's ability to induce sleep is no secret to parents of babies and it is hugely popular as a sleep aid among adults.

A steady, hissing sound that kicks in when you tune your TV or radio, white noise contains all frequencies at equal intensity, which makes it good at masking jarring background sounds that might wake you up.

Research has found that white noise particularly helps people get some shut-eye in noisy environments such as busy cities or in hospitals. ¦ ¦Hear it now: Found in whirring fans, radio or TV static, hissing radiators or even a humming air conditioner.

Brown for focus

Brown noise is the most buzzed-about sound of the moment, thanks to TikTok where videos with the hashtag #brownnoise have been watched 87 million times.

With deeper notes making it sound like a low roar, brown noise is believed to help boost focus and concentration and quiet a busy mind.

"There is a little research that says it can also help with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder," says Dr Swart.

"It's like a weighted blanket for your brain," says one TikTok user. ¦ ¦Hear it now: Seek out soundtracks that include gushing waterfalls, crashing waves and thunder.

Pink for memory

While similar to white noise, pink noise has more power in the lower frequencies, giving it a slightly deeper note.

Studies have also found that pink noise can enhance the restorative phases of sleep and, as a result, boost memory.

"It encourages you to move into the deeper part of the sleep cycle," says Dr Swart. "This is when we lay down memories and emotions that we've picked up throughout the day. By being in deep sleep longer you're cementing memories into your brain." ¦ ¦Hear it now: Listen to the sound of rain, waterfalls, ocean waves and steady traffic.

Purple for masking tinnitus

Purple noise is offered as a treatment for tinnitus as its higher frequencies can help mask the high-pitched sounds heard by many sufferers. Some people with this condition, in which you hear a ringing or buzzing inside your ears, find that background noises can distract their attention away from it.

However, the particular sound is individual to each person.

Royal National Institute for Deaf People suggests experimenting with tinnitus masking apps, while ear, nose and throat surgeon

Mike Dilkes, founder of London clinic HealthHub, says: "Tune your radio to find the hiss that's right for you and adjust the volume."

However, he warns that sound machines can generate their own tinnitus if they're too loud.

¦Hear it now: Turn on a tap or find the sound of sizzling frying pans on YouTube.

Don't let coloured noise hurt your hearing

Sounds under 85 dB (decibels) - the noise of heavy traffic - are safe for up to eight hours a day, says hearing loss charity RNID. But exposure to 110-120 dB, even for a short time, can cause hearing damage.

"If you're prone to ringing in your ears, don't go above 70 decibels," cautions Mike Dilkes.

—Luisa Metcalfe, Daily Mirror

MIRRORLIGHTS

Marijuana, vaping may be as harmful to heart as cigarettes: Study

E-cigarettes and marijuana may have harmful effects on the heart similar to those caused by tobacco cigarettes, opening the door to abnormal heart rhythms, according to a study conducted in mice.

E-cigarettes and heated tobacco products have become popular because the public perceives them as being less harmful than smoking, the researchers said.

Similarly, legal recreational marijuana has become more common in recent years, and is also frequently viewed by the public as being safer than smoking tobacco, they said.

"We found that cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and marijuana greatly interfere with the electrical activity, structure, and neural regulation of the heart," said study lead author Huiliang Qiu, a postdoctoral scholar at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) in the US.

"Often, any single change can lead to arrhythmia disease. Unfortunately, these adverse effects on the heart are quite comprehensive," Qiu said.

The study, published in the journal Heart Rhythm, exposed rats for eight weeks to a single daily session of exposure to smoke, aerosol from a popular e-cigarette, aerosol from the heated tobacco product, smoke from marijuana, and smoke from modified marijuana that lacks all cannabinoids, compared to just air.

The exposures modelled a single session of actual smoking/vaping: The rats inhaled the smoke or aerosol for five seconds twice for five minutes, with clean air in between the smoke inhalations.

This was done once per day for five days and per week for eight weeks. During that time, the heart function in the rats exposed to the products (but not air) got progressively worse and blood pressure increased, the researchers said.

At the end of the study, the team conducted various tests to determine electrical and physical properties of the hearts. . —PTI

All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I'm a woman in my 50s and divorced with grown-up children.
I've been seeing someone on and off for quite a while. He's also divorced and we started out as friends, but then began sleeping together.
We didn't put any pressure on each other, as we both agreed we weren't looking for another husband or wife after our divorces.
Things were fine at first, but then he started seeing and sleeping with other women. He meets them via dating sites.
He doesn't try to hide it and in fact he's now talking about it quite a lot - almost boasting about his love life. I don't know what's wrong with me that I can't tell him it's over. I was really damaged by my divorce - my husband cheated and is now with the woman he had an affair with. My kids don't live with me, so I suppose this man fills a gap. I'd love some advice. Please don't judge!

COLEEN SAYS

No judgment here! I think he's taken the no marriage thing and not wanting to be tied down as a green light for an open relationship. Maybe it's a communication issue – he's assuming it's OK and that's why he feels he can talk to you about it. Also, sometimes if you're friends and cross the line, you become a "friend with benefits".

But there are no real benefits for you here and it's obviously not what you want, so I think you know what you have to do. It's hard, but in the long term this relationship is damaging for your self-esteem, which has already been battered by your ex-husband.

I'd recommend counselling. Maybe this guy is more like your ex than you're willing to admit.

Be honest with him – tell him you may not want to get married again, but you do want a monogamous relationship.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
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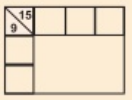
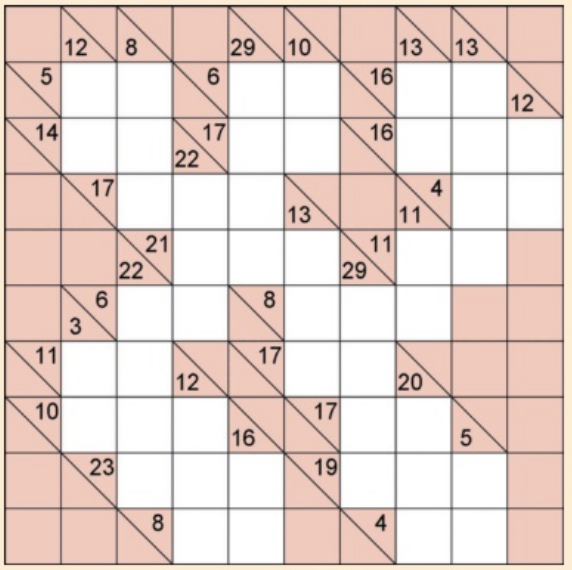
Kakuro

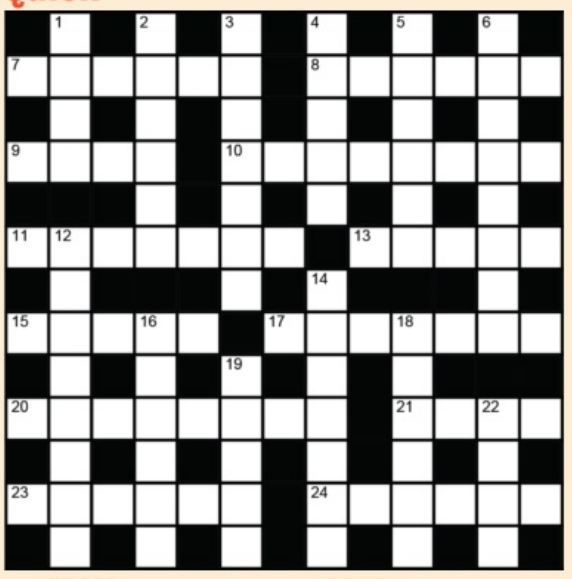
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Overly inquisitive (6)
8 Thinner (6)
9 Indian surname–"I mod" change? (4)
10 Distinguished fighters (8)
11 Challenging, argumentative (7)
13 Concur (5)
15 Ex-India captain Mankad (5)
17 Prolix (7)
20 Trigonometric function (8)
21 Outer garment (4)
23 Cleric (6)
24 Faldo, for instance (6)

DOWN

1 On one's own (4)
2 Two-piece swimsuit (6)
3 Doodle (7)
4 Blaze or fire (5)
5 Formula One sport (6)
6 Valiant or brave (8)
12 Final speech (8)
14 Reserve funds (4,3)
16 Twenty-four hours? (3,3)
18 Shoe fastener (6)
19 Auctioneer's hammer (5)
22 Elderly (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: O EQUALS G

QWUK PRL RSWZ PRSP LTSCLC JSW ETAPL PRL PTML PRAWO.

Linemaro

Have you been eating Cocoa Puffs?
Cuz I'm going cookoo for you!

Mindchow

A person who never made a mistake has never tried anything new

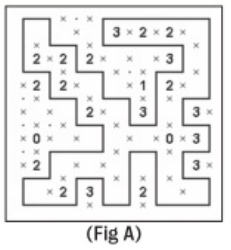
Joke of the day

Men marry women with the hope they will never change. Women marry men with the hope they will

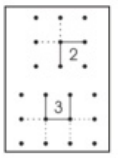
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



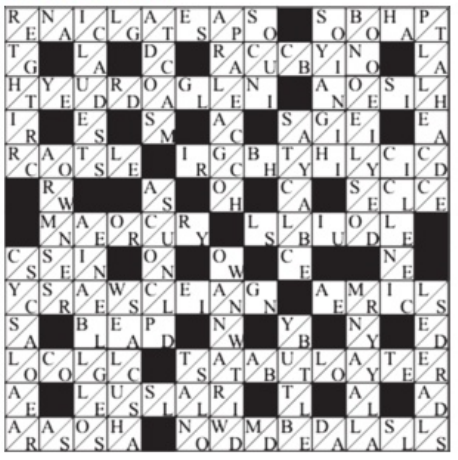
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

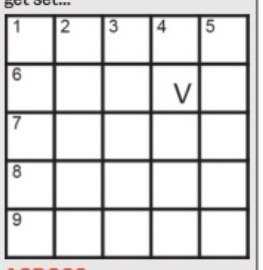
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

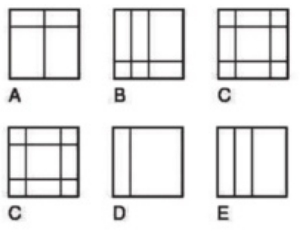
1 All do; 6 V Lara;
7 Or gin; 8 Genoa;
9 Slope

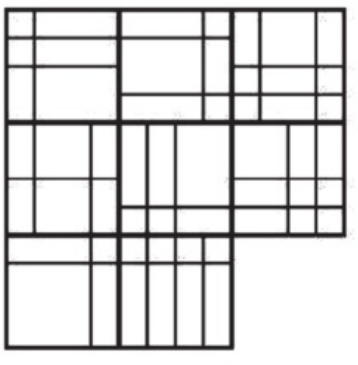
DOWN

1 A gall; 2 Goral;
3 Do Pro; 4 Envoi;
5 Elans

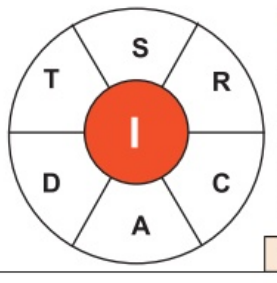
Mensapuzzle

Which is the missing tile?





Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 12 Good; 14 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	9						3	
6		8				1		5
			7	6	2			
8		3	2		1	4		9
	4						5	
9		7	6		5	3		8
			9	5	3			
3		9				5		6
	1						7	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 12

1 1 3 8

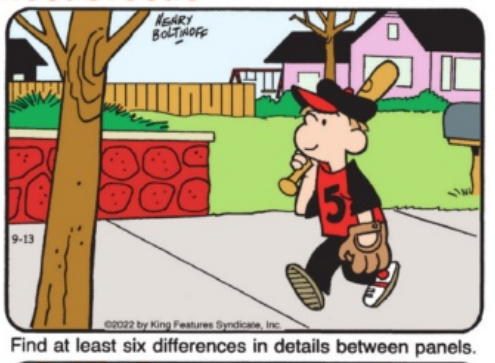
Medium = 7

4 5 5 7

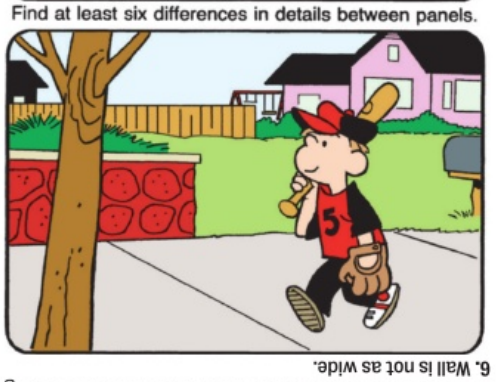
Hard = 4

2 8 8 3

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



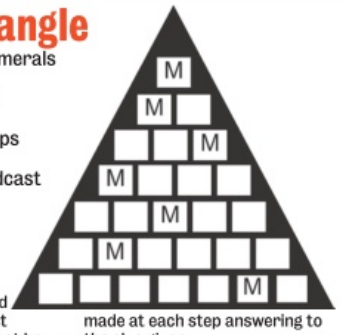
Differences: 1. Number is smaller. 2. Cap is different. 3. Shutter is smaller. 4. Mailbox is lower. 5. Tree is missing. 6. Wall is not as wide.

Riddler

Starting with I, add a letter and shuffle to make a new word each time and continue until you reach PRESETTING

Alpha triangle

1 1000 in Roman numerals
2 Arts degree
3 Provide weapons
4 Female horse
5 Marksman perhaps
6 Istanbul inn
7 Length of a broadcast



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

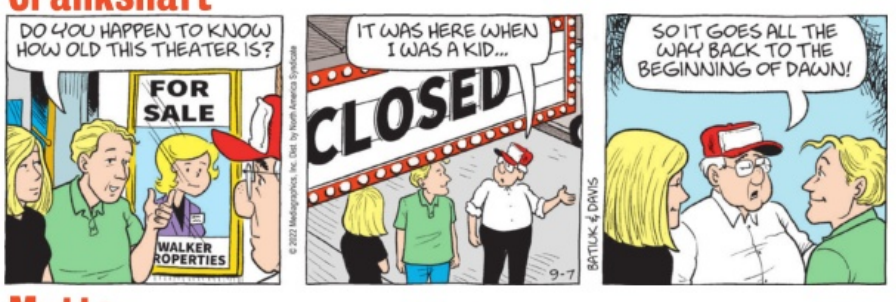
Diamond Lil

I WENT TO SENIOR SPIN CLASS TODAY
SENIOR SPIN CLASS? WHAT DO YOU DO THERE?
WE ALL STAND UP TOO FAST AND GET DIZZY
www.creators.com

Hart of the city

HOW WAS THE SECRET MYSTICS THE GROUPING TOURNAMENT?
THERE'S DEFINITELY SOME ILLEGAL GAMBLING GOING ON.
AND IT'S NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO WIN FAST ENOUGH TO WIN THE BLACK LOTUS CARD.
WILL YOU BE GOING BACK?
ABSOLUTELY.

Crankshaft


DO YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW HOW OLD THIS THEATER IS?
FOR SALE
WALKER ROPERTIES
IT WAS HERE WHEN I WAS A KID...
CLOSED
SO IT GOES ALL THE WAY BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF DAWN!
9-7

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may spend money to buy some creative items or artefacts to renovate your house, which may improve your social status. You may implement some new plans into your family business. It will pay you in terms of gains in the near future. You may also be busy with family or social get-togethers.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today is a good day for you. You may have good vitality and health. You may enjoy your work. Try to avoid being too straightforward. It is advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics, otherwise there may be some disputes in the family. Jobseekers may find suitable work. Lovebirds are advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you are not blessed by the moon. You may feel unhappy and impatient today. You may find yourself performing your tasks at work and may not be able to fulfil your desires. You want to be removed from your given responsibilities. You may not be able to complete work on time if you procrastinate a lot.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. Work-related pressure may go away. Your earnings may convert into profits now. You are likely to invest for a long-term period. You may get an overseas work order, which will give you financial benefits in the coming future. You may find your soulmate. Students may hear good news in terms of their academics.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you are blessed by the moon and may perform well on the professional front. You may implement your business plans very easily with the help of your colleagues. Intellectual and financial investments may start giving profits now, which may increase your confidence levels. You may use your wisdom to gain benefits.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. Your spiritual power can make you happy. Your way of thinking may be positive. You are inclined to spiritualism today. You may plan to visit a spiritual place. You may also take an interest in occult sciences. You are likely to observe flawlessness in your nature. It is advised to keep your views to yourself.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may feel nervous and may have a lack of patience.
For seeking peace, you may be attracted to the occult, but it is advised to follow your intuition before going ahead. You may also get deep knowledge on a subject or you may have a good focus on research. Chanting mantras may help you with tough situations.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you are blessed by the moon, which may help you to find your inner strength. You are likely to get some new opportunities for your business and work, which will pay off in terms of future gains. Couples may hear good news in terms of childbirth. Lovebirds are advised to be clear in their opinion with each other to make their future bright.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you are blessed by Jupiter. Things are now under control. Your performance may be praised by your seniors, and you may expect promotions. Money that was stuck somewhere is likely to be recovered now. It may help increase liquidity in your business. There may be some good news in terms of legal matters also. In partnerships, many issues are likely to be resolved.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may hear good news in terms of work. Jobseekers may be focused on cracking entrance exams with the help of hard work. Singles may hear good news in terms of marriage. Couples may hear some good news in terms of childbirth. It is a good day overall.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may plan for a change of place, but it is advised to postpone any decision related to migration for a while. It is also advised to avoid investments in business. By late evening, bad situations may be under control. With the help of good advice from one of your elders, you may control the mess.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may have good patience. Meditation may help you increase concentration, which will speed up your projects. Your juniors may cooperate with you, which may help you complete a project before time. There may be some short trips related to work. You may likely meet an influential person who will help you to boost your business.

KIDZONE

Neil Karmakar, 5 years, Vidyashilp Academy

Dhruva R, 6 years, Little Angles English School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
144÷144/81×6
=16÷16×6
=1556

RIDDLER
One solution is: I, IN, GIN, SING, STING, STRING, RESTING, INTEGERS, PESTERING, PRESETTING

QUOTE UNCODE
Only the hand that erases can write the true thing.

BULL'S EYE

L	O	P	E	S
A	G	O	N	E
G	R	O	I	N
L	A	R	V	A
A	L	D	O	L

FAST FIVE
acid, acrid, arid, astir, dirt, trad, DAASTIC, racist, raid, said, stair, stair, stalk, stair, stir,

STRIKE OUT

E	N	C	L	A	S	I	P	S	S	O	A	P		
T	A	D	R	U	B	I	N	A						
H	Y	D	R	O	G	E	N	E	I	L				
I	E	S	A	G	E	A								
C	O	T	E	I	C	H	T	H	Y	I	C			
M	E	R	C	Y	S	L	I	D	E					
R	S	H	A	E	C	E								
C	R	A	W	L	I	N	G	E	M	I	L			
A	B	A	D	W	B	Y	E							
L	O	L	T	A	B	U	L	A	T	E				
A	E	S	A	R	L	L	D							
R	A	S	H	O	D	D	B	A	L	L	S			

QUICK

E	Y	L	G	E	D									
C	U	R	A	T	E	G	O	L	F	E	R			
G	D	V	E	K	G									
C	O	S	E	C	A	N	T	C	O	A	T			
L	N	G	S	U										
V	I	N	O	O	V	E	R	B	O	S	E			
P	G	N	S											
D	E	F	I	A	N	T	A	G	R	E	E			
N	I	E	N	L										
M	O	D	I	W	A	R	R	I	O	R	S			
C	A	K	A	C	A									
N	O	S	I	E	R	L	E	A	N	E	R			
S	B	D	F	R	F									

MENSA PUZZLE
Hint: looking across and down, lines are carried forward from the first two squares to the final square, except where two lines appear in the same position in the first two squares, in which case they are cancelled out.

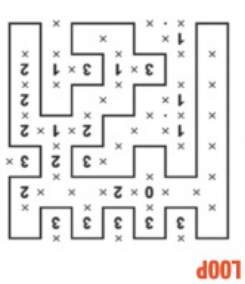
SUDOKU

2	1	5	4	8	6	9	7	3
3	8	9	1	2	7	5	4	6
7	6	4	9	5	3	2	8	1
9	2	7	6	4	5	3	1	8
1	4	6	8	3	9	7	5	2
8	5	3	2	7	1	4	6	9
5	3	1	7	6	2	8	9	4
6	7	8	3	9	4	1	2	5
4	9	2	5	1	8	6	3	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
Easy
3 + 8 x 1 + 1 = 12
Medium
4 – 7 + 5 + 5 = 7
Hard
3 x 8 / 2 – 8 = 4

GO FIGURE
M, MA, Arm, Mare, Almer, Marel, Airtime.

LOOP



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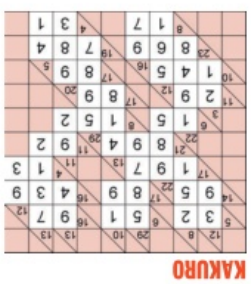

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 # More trouble for Kevin Spacey
Actor Kevin Spacey will be charged with seven further sex offenses in Britain, all relating to the same alleged victim

Don't get knotty

Tamannaah shuts speculations of marriage

Tamannaah Bhatia decided to shut down all speculations about her wedding with a savage post on social media. An Instagram account reported that the actress was planning to get hitched to a businessman.

Reacting to the buzz about her personal life, Tamannaah Bhatia posted a video from her vanity van, wherein she had dressed up as a man and had captioned it, "Introducing my businessman husband..." Tamannaah Bhatia stylishly busted all rumours surrounding her personal life.

Speaking about romance and love, Tamannaah had shared that she doesn't have time for personal life. "I do believe in the institution of marriage, and I do want to get married and have kids. But for now, I don't have much of a life. I really enjoy my work a lot. I think it (a film set) is a place where I feel most comfortable. If I had more energy I would work all the more." She had further added, "The thing is that I work 26 hours a day! My mother is just fed up with my busy schedule. Like every Indian household, my parents want me to get married too. But what do I do? I have no time for my personal life." — ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Horror of horrors

Lohith H, who made it to the top with the success of his maiden Kannada movie Mummy Save Me, is set to handle the megaphone for the fourth time. Mummy Save Me was of the horror genre, and Lohith's next to is in that genre with Prajwal Devaraj in the lead role. "We are yet to choose a title for this movie. It will be the first Kannada movie to have a time loop concept. Romantic movies with a time loop were made in Kannada but a horror movie hasn't been made so far," said Lohith.

His second Kannada movie was Devaki and third is Mafia in which Prajwal Devaraj and Aditi Prabhudeva are the lead pair. "Mafia is an action thriller. Its post production work is in progress. It is set to be released shortly," he said.

The fifth movie is Sathyamangala in which Dr Shivarajkumar plays the lead role. Sathyamangala's first look was released recently. "If all goes well, the shooting of Sathyamangala will commence in February 2023," he said, adding that the yet-untitled movie's shooting will begin shortly.

Cocktail time

Director Sriram is bullish about the success of his maiden Kannada movie Cocktail. The reason is the positive response and support from the Regional Censor Board and actress Ashika Ranganath. "The Regional Censor Board gave a U/A certification for Cocktail. The Board Officer appreciated me for making a movie with fresh content. He told me he has not come across such movies all these years after the Kannada movie Upendra which was released more than two decades ago," said Sriram who hails from Kolar.

According to Sriram, Cocktail will hook the audiences. "Usually the audiences can guess what happens next in a movie, but Cocktail is a completely different movie," he said. The team of Cocktail met Sandalwood actress Ashika Ranganath to release one of the songs. The song – Male Modadha Anuragadha – is sung by Armaan Malik while Lokithavashya. "I am happy that Ashika not only released the song but also due to her kind words," the director said. Veren Keshav, who got training in acting at Anupam Kher Acting School, debuts as a hero in this film. Charishma, Shobharaj, and others make up the star cast of this suspense thriller.

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